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If We Each Save A Little....

Most of us in Ontario own an automobile or drive regularly. Indeed we drive so regularly that automobiles use about 25% of ALL THE OIL used each year in Ontario. At a time when oil supplies are uncertain and gasoline prices are rising, it is essential that we as motorists in Ontario take steps to conserve our fuel.

Two of the easy, but important, ways that we can save gasoline – Short Idling and Correct Tire Pressure – are outlined in this brochure. By following the simple suggestions in this pamphlet, you will SAVE GAS and CASH, and drive a car which is SAFER for you and your family.

Remember,

**IF WE EACH
SAVE A LITTLE**

**WE ALL
SAVE A LOT**



IDLE TIMES

Short Time Savers!!

Most of us idle our cars too often and too long. We waste not only our own time but also valuable fuel. Excessive idling can even increase the wear on your engine.

In the next couple of pages we look at the warm-up of a cold car, short stops you make during the day, and restarting a warmed engine. But for now remember . . .

Idle –

*It's A Short Word For A Short Time
Let's Keep It That Way.*



The Warm-Up

On a cold morning, how long should you let your car warm-up?

Even in cold weather, don't be fooled into thinking that a car needs a long warm-up. For most cars and most weather conditions about 30 seconds of idling is all that is necessary. After a short warm-up, drive gently for the first few minutes. This way the engine gets to the normal operating temperature faster than if the car were standing still.

So . . . Start Your Day . . . Start Your Engine. Before you even start out make sure the car and You are ready to go. When everyone is ready to go . . . Start Your Engine.

To save even more fuel use a Block Heater on cold days. Use a timer set so as to turn on the block heater an hour or so before you want to start the car.

Idle Quiz:

When does 95 percent of the wear and tear in your engine occur?

Answer:

Almost all engine wear occurs in the first 15 seconds when a cold engine is started.

Find Yourself in a Fog . . .

Windshield fogging can occur in a cold car. There are a number of things you can try to prevent this winter safety hazard. An obvious one is opening a window. Another is to turn off the heater/defroster the night before and leave it off until the engine has been running for a couple of minutes.

Find Your Car Still in Fast Idle . . .

In the first few minutes of driving, the fast idle may still be operating. This reduces braking efficiency. Therefore, when roads are icy adjust your driving accordingly.

Short Stops

Not the ones found in baseball, but those short stops you and your car make each day: getting milk, waiting for someone, waiting at a drive-thru restaurant or bank.

These short stops almost always take longer than you think. And 1 minute of idling uses more gasoline than it takes to restart. So save your gas – **TURN YOUR ENGINE OFF!!**

Remember . . .

***When it's off,
it's off!!***



Restart and Go!!

You just bought some milk, got back into your car, and fastened your seatbelt. Is there anything else you should do before turning the key in the ignition??

Yes. Check the traffic. When the traffic is clear, start your engine. Always be sure you're ready to go before restarting a warmed engine. It doesn't need to wait around.

Remember . . .

***On Your Mark . . . Get Set . . .
Restart . . . Go!!***

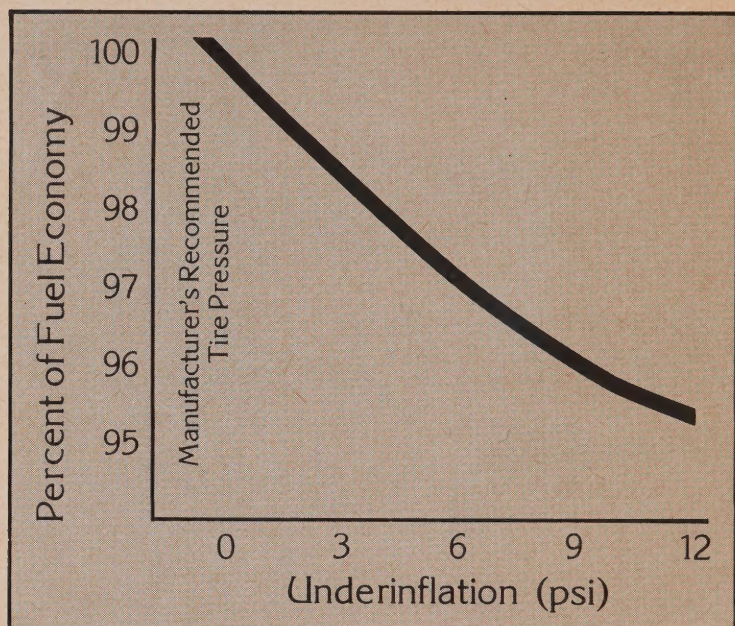
TIRE PRESSURE

Inflation Saves!!

To most of us, inflation means rising costs and a shrinking dollar. But, one type of inflation – tire inflation – means you can save money and drive a safer vehicle.

SAFETY – A Canadian survey found 60% of cars had hazardously underinflated tires. Underinflated tires can impair braking, or overheat and increase chances of a blowout.

FUEL SAVINGS – Underinflation can cost you 5% of your gasoline – up to 4 litres every time you fill up!



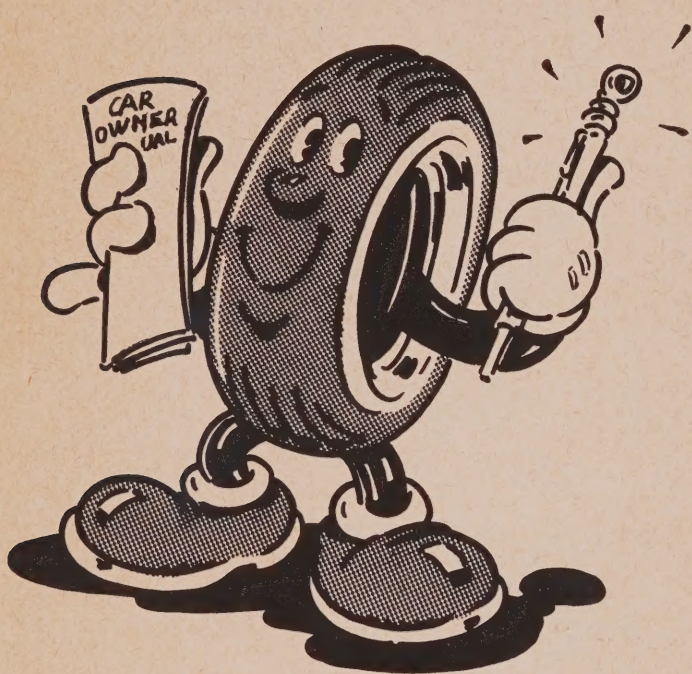
TIRE WEAR – Underinflated tires wear out faster and have to be replaced more often.

TIRE INFLATION – One time when inflation can save you money and keep you safer!

Get Ready to Check Your Tires

1. Find out what your car manufacturer recommends. Check your owner's manual, door jambs, glove compartment, or ask the dealer. For better fuel efficiency use the pressures listed for heavy loads.

You will find tire pressure given in either pounds per square inch (psi), or the metric units called kilopascals (kPa). A handy tire pressure conversion chart is provided on the back cover.



2. Buy a tire gauge (\$5 or less). This will allow you to check tire pressure when the tires are COLD – that is, after the car has sat for several hours. This is important since **ALL RECOMMENDED PRESSURES ARE FOR COLD TIRES.** Even driving for 3 minutes heats the air in the tire and increases tire pressure somewhat.

Pumping Them Up at a Service Station

1. If your cold tire pressure is below recommended, it's time to pump them up.
2. When you arrive at the service station use your tire gauge again. This will give you the "hot" tire pressure.
3. Set the station's air pump to the recommended cold pressure. Then add on the difference you found between your cold and hot tire pressure checks.
4. Push the air hose chuck on to the tire valve. Move the chuck around until any hissing sounds have stopped (this is air leaking out). Listen for repeated ringing sounds. When the rings stop for more than a few seconds the tire is at the indicated pressure. (If there are no rings, ask whether the air supply has been switched on).



5. Check the tire pressure with your gauge. Service station air pumps are often inaccurate.
6. Coil air hose and replace on hook.
7. Don't forget the spare tire.
8. Check tire pressure once a week, or *at least* once a month. A drop of 10°C can reduce pressure by 2 psi (14 kPa).

What to Do Without a Tire Gauge

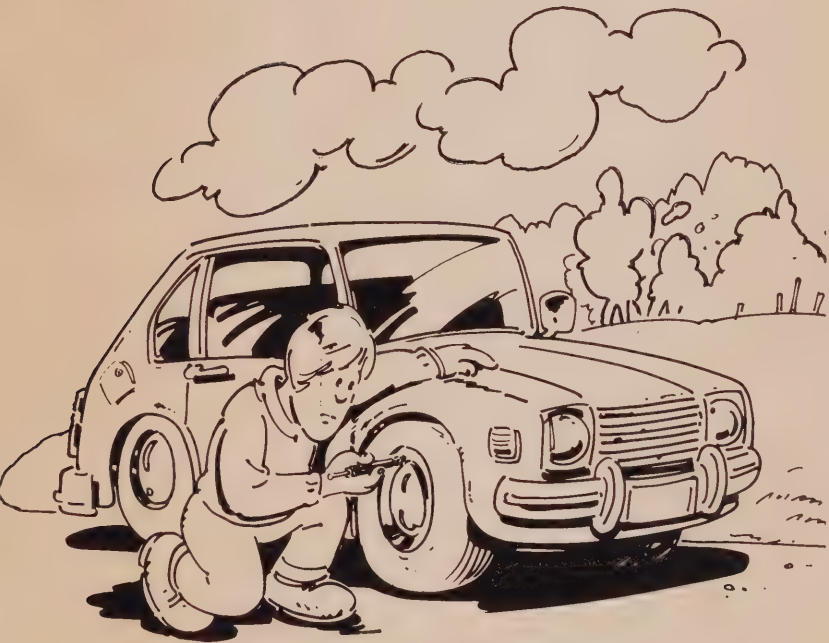
Ask whether the station air pump is accurate. When was it checked?

Most stations will have a tire gauge which you can borrow.

If you must check tire pressure when your tires are hot it is a good rule-of-thumb to add 4 psi (28 kPa) to your recommended cold tire pressure level.

Hot Tire Question:

Fred has been driving 10 miles. He thinks his car tire pressure is low. He checks, – surprise – it is at the recommended level. What should he do now?



Answer:

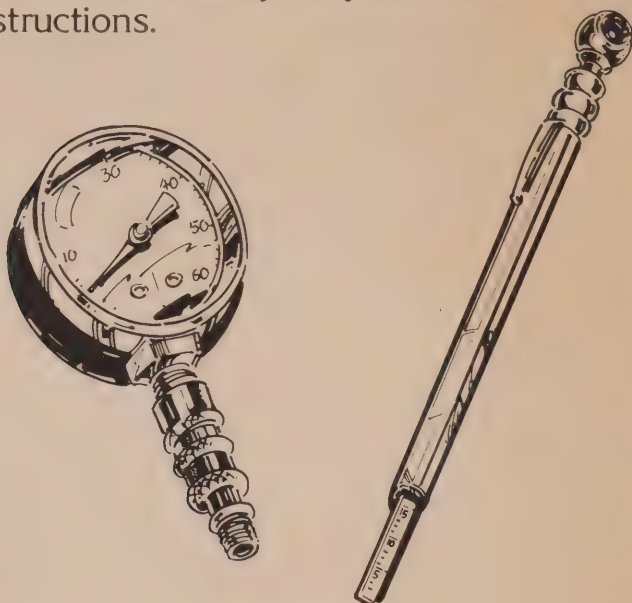
After driving 10 miles the tires become hot and the air pressure inside the tires increases. Fred should add 4 psi of air to his recommended level. Remember all recommended tire pressure levels are for cold tires.

Do-It-Yourself Equipment: A Tire Gauge & Pump

It can be difficult to find a nearby service station with a working air pump. When you do find one, the air pump may be inaccurate. It therefore pays to look into buying a tire pressure gauge and an air pump. In their Feb. '80 issue, *Consumer Reports* surveyed the available models and provided basic instructions for using gauges and pumps.

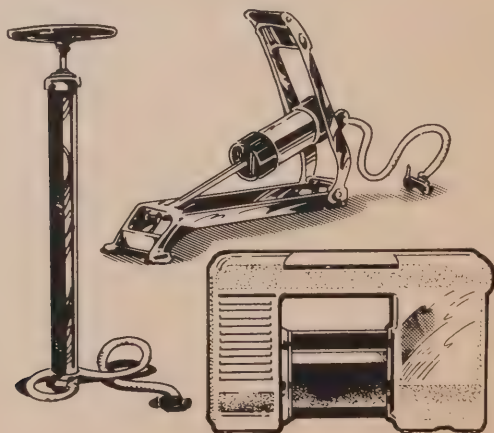
Tire Gauges

Shown below are the two types of tire pressure gauges – the pencil-type and the dial-type. Generally they are inexpensive and come with very easy to follow instructions.



Tire Pumps

There are many reasonably priced tire pumps available, including hand, foot, and electrically operated models.



More Tire Stuff

Radials

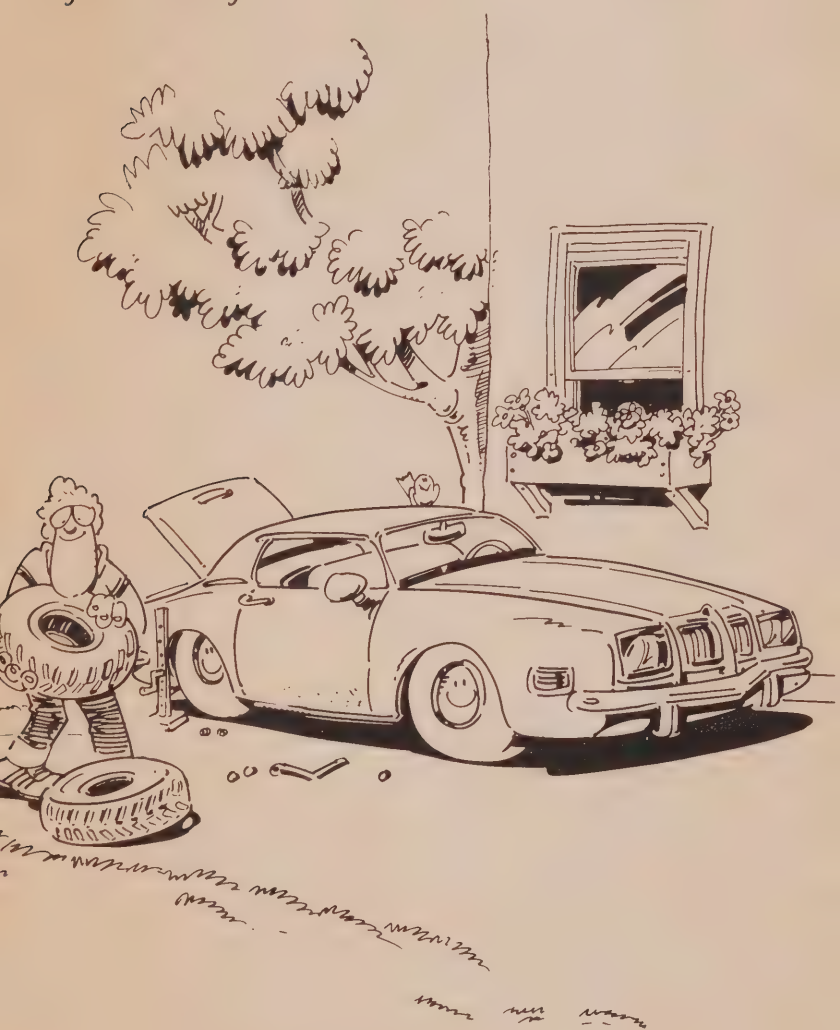
When buying a new car, or just new tires, consider buying radials. They usually last longer, save you fuel, and often provide better steering qualities.

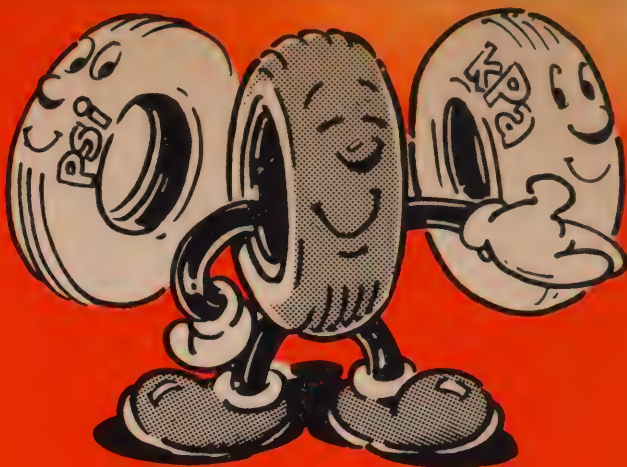
Caution – use all radials or all conventional tires. It can be dangerous to mix them!

Snow Tires

As soon as weather permits, remove your snow tires. Snow tires decrease your mileage. In tests conducted so far, it's been found that snow tires use up to 7% more fuel than regular tires.

So, don't leave snow tires on your car when they aren't needed – they're costing you money!!





METRIC TIRE PRESSURE CONVERSION CHART

This chart will help you convert the pounds per square inch (psi) calibrations that are found on most tire pressure gauges to metric kilopascal (kPa) units.

psi	kPa	psi	kPa
4	28	26	179
6	41	28	193
8	55	30	207
10	69	32	221
12	83	36	248
14	97	38	262
16	110	40	276
18	124	45	310
20	138	50	345
22	152	60	414
24	165	65	448

1 psi = 6.89 kPa

Keep this chart in your car.



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